

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In A method of transferring data from a server to a remote client over a communications link, a request for specific data is sent from the remote client to the server

5 accompanied by a compression request for transmission of the data at a specified compression ratio. Upon receipt of this request, the server retrieves the specific data from a data source, such as a web server or ftp server. An agent at the remote server intercept the retrieved data and compresses at
10 least part of the retrieved data prior to transmission. After transmission to the remote client in compressed form over the communications link in accordance with the compression request, the data is decompressed and restored to an uncompressed intelligible form.

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